(a) whether it is a fact that only 28 per cent of total labour force of the country is engaged in production work;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the productivity of country's labourer is low in comparison to the labourer in developed countries; and

(c) if so, the details with regard to productivity of the labourers in our country and those of America, England, Japan and China?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The labour productivity measured in terms of Gross domestic product (Purchasing Power Parity) per person per hour (in US $) during the year 2003 for different countries is as follows:—

India	:	3.05
China	:	4.39
Japan	:	29.88
U.K.	:	30.93
U.S.A	:	40.72

Source: World Competitiveness Year book, 2004.

Suggestions on NRI marriage registration

†*234. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the suggestions given by the Women Commission to Government in respect of marriage registration of NRIs and on other matters along with the date when these suggestions were given;

(b) Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The report of NRI Marriage Problems by National Commission for Women forwarded to MOIA on 8 October 2004 suggests that the registration of marriages involving

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

NRI Grooms should be made compulsory under those statutes where it is not compulsory. The other important suggestions include bilateral agreements between India and the other countries with large Indian Diaspora, Government monitored conciliation process for settlement of matrimonial disputes, mediation/conciliation centres, proper distribution of property under the law in case of divorce, treating suppression of marital status by NRI grooms under criminal law, amendment of Foreign Marriage Act 1969 and easy access to the embassies/consulates for the aggrieved wives of the NRI husbands.

(b) and (c) Government is aware of the problems in serveral NRI marriages. The matter is under discussion with the Ministries and agencies concerned. The preparation of the booklet to disseminate information on procedures for pre-marital verification of the intending partners, legal action in India and overseas, utilizing the services of local/foreign NGOs, conseling and amicable settlement, legal aid etc. has been agreed upon. A separate session on Private International Law with a focus on a separate Law/ Convention to tacle the problem of NRI marriages is being organized at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in Mumbai on 8 January 2005. The matter would be pursued further in the light of the recommendations at the above session.

Facilities to Gramin Dak Sevaks

*235. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether three lakh Gramin Dak Sevaks maintaining communications services to rural Indian are being denied all facilities and benefits despite Supreme Court's ruling to treat them as holders of civilian posts;

(b) the details of their pending demands; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in the case of P.K. Rajamma, 1977 (3) SCC 1994, has held that although an Extra Departmental Agent (EDA), now called Gramin Dak Sevak (GDS) holds a civil post under the administrative control of the State, such a post is outside the regular Civil Services. The EDAs now